

State of California California Environmental Protection Agency



Air Resources Board | Department of Pesticide Regulation: | Department of Toxic Substances Control

Integrated Waste Management Board Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment State Water Resources Control Board Regional Water Quality Control Board

October 30, 2001

Dear Stakeholder:

The California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) will establish an Advisory Committee on Environmental Justice (Advisory Committee) to assist Cal/EPA in implementing an environmental justice agenda. Cal/EPA sees the creation of the Advisory Committee as an opportunity to engage a multi-stakeholder group to guide and influence the direction of environmental justice efforts at Cal/EPA.

The Advisory Committee in accordance with Senate Bill 89 (Public Resources Code section 72003) will function as an advisory body to Cal/EPA and the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice¹ and will assist the Working Group in:

- Examining existing data and studies on environmental justice;
- Recommending criteria for identifying and addressing any gaps in existing programs, policies or activities that may impede the achievement of environmental justice;
- Recommending procedures and providing guidance to Cal/EPA for the coordination and implementation of intra-agency environmental justice strategies;
- Recommending procedures for collecting, maintaining, analyzing, and coordinating information relating to an environmental justice strategy;
- Recommending procedures to ensure that public documents, notices, and public hearings related to human health or the environment are concise, understandable, and readily accessible to the public;

By statute, the thirteen (13) member Advisory Committee will consist of two representatives of local or regional land use planning agencies; two representatives

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The Interagency Working Group will assist the California Environmental Protection, Agency in developing an agency-wide strategy for identifying and addressing any gaps in existing programs, policies, or activities that may impede the achievement of environmental justice. Pursuant to Public Resources Code 72002, "The working group shall be composed of the Secretary for Environmental Protection, the Chairs of the State Air Resources Board, the California Integrated Waste Management Board, and the State Water Resources Control Board, the Director of Toxic Substances Control, the Director of Pesticide Regulation, the Director of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, and the Director of Office of Planning and Research."

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from air districts; two representatives from certified unified program agencies (CUPAs); and two representatives from environmental organizations. The Advisory Committee will also include three representatives from the business community, one from a small business and two from a large business, except that two of the representatives may be from an association that represents small or large businesses; and two representatives from community organizations.

Members of the Advisory Committee will serve terms of two or three years. The positions are voluntary appointments and the committee will meet a minimum of two times a year, beginning in January 2002. Additional meetings may be required by the Interagency Working Group, the Secretary of Cal/EPA or the Advisory Committee on Environmental Justice. Cal/EPA will pay for travel expenses and provide a reasonable per diem for attendance at Advisory Committee meetings by Advisory Committee members from nonprofit organizations.

We are seeking applicants for the Advisory Committee who have knowledge of and demonstrated leadership experience in environmental justice issues affecting their respective communities. We encourage your assistance in nominating members to Cal/EPA's Advisory Committee on Environmental Justice.

The enclosed application must be postmarked no later than **Wednesday**, **December 5, 2001**. A completed application can also be emailed to: rpascual@calepa.ca.gov. Notification of the final selections will be done by December 17, 2001.

Thank you in advance for your assistance. If you have any questions please contact Romel Pascual, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Justice, at: (916) 324-8425 or via email at: rpascual@calepa.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Winston H. Hickox Agency Secretary

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Enclosures